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LETTER DATED 28 DECEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BURUNDI TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the resolution on regional sanctions imposed on Burundi, adopted at the fourth ordinary session of the Central Organ of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, meeting at the level of heads of State and Government in Ouagadougou on 17 and 18 December 1998 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gamaliel NDARUZANIYE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Resolution on the economic sanctions imposed on Burundi

The fourth ordinary session of the Central Organ of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, at the level of heads of State and Government, meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 17 and 18 December 1998,

Having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General of OAU on the question of economic sanctions imposed on Burundi by the heads of State of the subregion,

Referring to the final communiqué issued at the end of the sixth regional summit on the Burundi conflict held in Kampala on 21 February 1998, at which the heads of State pledged to review the said sanctions as soon as the Arusha negotiations got under way,

Considering that the pledge to review the sanctions once the negotiations started was reaffirmed at the thirty-fourth OAU Summit, held in Ouagadougou from 8 to 10 June 1998,

Noting that the inter-Burundi talks did commence on 15 June 1998 in the presence of the heads of State of the region and under the mediation of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere,

Also noting that the Government of Burundi has implemented all the conditionalities demanded by the heads of State of the subregion,

Considering that the parties to the Burundi conflict have already held three sessions of negotiation in Arusha in a serene atmosphere underpinned by the irreversible political will of the protagonists to resolve the crisis through political dialogue,

Taking into account the fact that the said sanctions mostly affect the most vulnerable categories of the population and undermine development achievements, as well as impede the peace process,

Makes an urgent and brotherly appeal to the heads of State of the subregion to lift the sanctions immediately;

Invites the Secretary-General of OAU to follow up the implementation of this request.

Done at Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 17 December 1998.